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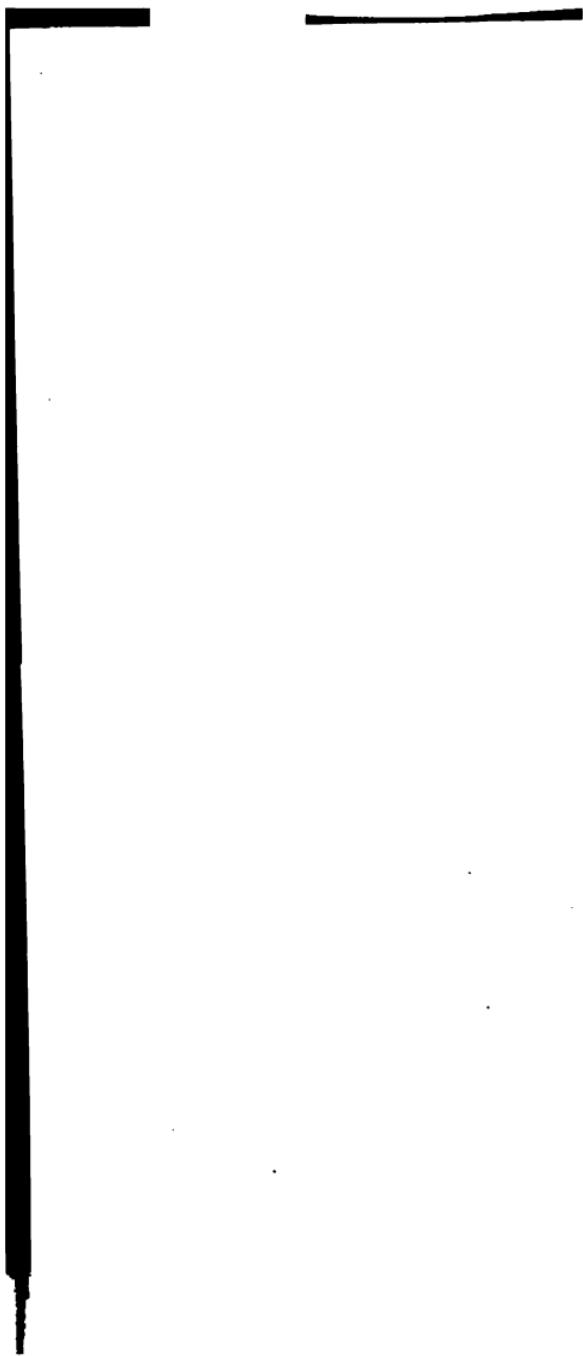
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HISTORY
OF THE
BUNHILL FIELDS BURIAL GROUND,

With some of the Principal Inscriptions.



PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE
*City Lands Committee of the Corporation
of London*

(CLAUDIUS GEORGE ALGAR, Esq., Chairman),

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Willis A. Broughton

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*ALPHABETICAL LIST OF NAMES AS MARKED BY
NUMBERS ON THE PLAN.*

34. Biggs, William.	5. Jenkyn, William, M.A.
40. Bradbury, Thomas.	38. Kippis, Andrew, D.D.
23. Bunyan, John.	22. Lardner, Nath., D.D.
36. Burder, Geo.	29. Neal, Daniel, M.A.
41. Buxton, Thos. Fowell.	29. Lindsey, Theo., M.A.
28. Conder, John, D.D.	1. Morley, John.
†25. Cromwell, Hy.	44. Nasmyth, David.
†26. Cromwell, Richard.	12. Owen, John, D.D.
16. Defoe, Daniel.	35. Page, Lady.
7. Eames, John.	4. Pugh, Hugh.
31. Erskine, Lady A.	17. Rees, Abraham, D.D.
10. Fleetwood, Lt.-Genl.	43. Rippon, John, D.D.
13. Gale, Theophilus, M.A.	15. Rosewell, Thos., M.A.
11. Giffard, Andrew, D.D.	14. Rowe, J. T. & B.
42. Gill, John, D.D.	37. Stennett, Samuel, D.D.
6. Goodwin, Thos., D.D.	24. Stothard, Thos., R.A.
Owen, Thankful.	30. Townsend, John.
18. Hardcastle, Joseph.	9. Watts, Isaac, D.D.
3. Hardy, Thomas.	33. Waugh, Alex., D.D.
32. Hart, Joseph.	27. Wesley, Susannah.
2. Hughes, James.	19. Wilks, Matthew.
21. Hughes, Joseph, M.A.	8. Williams, Daniel, D.D.
20. Hunter, Henry, D.D.	39. Winter, Richd., D.D.

† See Note at foot of page 28.

Historical Account of Bunhill Fields.

BUNHILL FIELDS IN 1867.

A PLEA FOR ITS RESTORATION.

LIFT your hat as you pass the gate which admits you within that sacred enclosure, the burial place of godly men and worthy citizens, whose treasured remains, through two centuries now past, have been brought hither, and regretfully deposited in their final resting-place. The passer-by, as he hastens on his way, notes your reverend attitude ; he respects your feeling, but he cannot understand it. How should he ? To him it is but an “old graveyard”—to you, the “*Campo Santo*”* of your Nonconforming forefathers, many of whom, suffering for righteousness’ sake, have borne aloft the standard of liberty of conscience.

*This ground was so called by Southey.

fought valiantly for the truth, and won, by hard-earned contests, the vantage-ground upon which, in this twentieth century, you stand.

“Ay, call it holy ground !”

What recks it whether ecclesiastical procession,* intoning with solemn voice, beat the bounds of this hallowed inclosure ? This is God’s acre ; the very dust is sacred ; the whole ground is separate, consecrated, and sanctified.

It is a cold and uninviting morning ; even the churchyard of Stoke Pogis and its ivy-mantled tower would look chill and gloomy on such a day ; how much more sombre and desolate this deserted and uncared-for waste —once the pleasantest and most picturesque of all the celebrated Finsbury Fields ! Shall no friendly hand clear away those dank weeds which hide the lowly stones ?—shall none appear to cleanse the soiled and weather-worn slab, so that its record may be traced ?—shall none be found to lift up the headstones fallen slant-wise to the earth, or to renew the masonry of the altar tombs lying now in shapeless and pitiable ruin ? Is there none to chisel out the faded inscription, and with pious hand to grave still more deeply the

* No evidence of consecration is found.

time-honoured memorials ? Nonconformists ! is there no "Old Mortality" amongst you, who, out of love for these sainted ones and for their Lord and Master, would live awhile amongst the tombs, and make it impossible that the names of our illustrious dead—confessors, historians, pastors, poets, and their dying witness to His love—should evermore be hidden from our view ?

In olden time visitors to this ground were accustomed to look upon an old stone, set up somewhere near this very entrance, strange to say not now to be found, but which then bore the inscription—

"This churchyard was inclosed with a brick wall, at the sole charge of the City of London, in the Mayoralty of Sir John Lawrence, Kt., A.D. 1665 ; and afterwards the gates hereof were built and finished in the Mayoralty of Sir Thomas Bludworth, Kt., A.D. 1666."

This record carries us back to a period of no very great antiquity, whereas, if we mistake not, Bon-hill indicates a mound of earth standing out on the broad level of Finsbury Fen, which used to be marked, five centuries back, as the site of a place of Saxon burial. Certain it is that the earliest map and still earlier traditions attribute to this spot the position of a tumulus which gave to two fields the name of Bon or Bone-hill Fields.

These fields were a portion of the well-known Fen, once a great morass, covering some acres, and adjacent to Moorfields, also a profitless waste. It was a part of the great church property of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's; and at this day, though there is no such person as the "Prebendarius de Haliwell et de Finesbiri," his stall may still be found, ready for occupation, in the Cathedral of St. Paul's, the canopy over it bearing an inscription which clearly shows for whom it is supposed to be kept, in perpetual but unavailing readiness. In the fifteenth century the Corporation agreed to take this church land at the yearly rent of twenty shillings; and the grant of the prebendary to the Lord Mayor and the Commonalty in 1315 is most ample, seeing that for this consideration he gives "for himself and his successors all his right and claim" to the property, which looks very much like a grant of the land in perpetuity.

The archers and bowyers of old London took possession of this ground for their exercises: and where the soldiers of the City assembled, the people, in those days of military devotion, were sure to congregate. Here, then, the whole population were accustomed to seek their pastimes; and much of their life being devoted to this object, the moor was crowded with leisurely

citizens. The people were greatly given to jousts and boisterous games ; and what with saints'-days, fast-days, and civic feastings, our festive-loving forefathers seem to have had an everlasting celebration. From the Eve of St. John to the Eve of Christmas, what with music and banners, pageants and morris-dancers, the citizens led a life of constant excitement. Moorgate, Bishopsgate, and Cripplegate poured out their thousands ; and on the spot where the Cressy bowmen had once been trained, the bold apprentices of London, from Aldgate to the Strand, came out daily to practice archery and broadsword, and to show their feats of arms.

Upon this open moorland the skilful marks-men, with bow of Spanish yew and well-twisted silken string, drew forth from admiring multitudes tokens of applause, and all around the air was filled with their acclaim and the sound of merry voices, advancing along the outlying footways which led in from the distant and rural suburban villages. Around might be seen the priory of Holywell and Sir Thomas Lovell's mansion ; the church of St. Leonard, Shoredy whole ; the gloomy circle of gigantic elms which guarded the palace of the bloodthirsty Bonner on Bethnal Green ; the tower of St. John's, in the midst of the fruitful homesteads of Hackney ;

the spire of St. Mary, Isledon ; and in the west the lordly “ commandmente ” of the Knights of St. John’s, and the priory of the nuns of Clerkenwell.

In proper chronological order, it should be noted here, that from some cause the “ grant ” of the Prebendary of Halliwell went for nothing; for in 1553, the Corporation were charged with a rental of £39 13s. 4d. for a lease of ninety years.

Eight years afterwards—viz., in 1561—a new right was acquired by the Corporation over the whole of the Finsbury estate, in consideration of a special service rendered to the ecclesiastical authorities. It happened in this year that a terrific storm burst over London, whose people, given up to soothsaying and star-gazing, thought that the end of all things was at hand. In the very height of the tempest the great cathedral was struck by lightning and a great part of the edifice was consumed in the sight of the affrighted citizens. To repair the loss, and to cover in the roof with lead, was a great undertaking, and while the prebendary, John Spendlowe, and his colleagues undertook the one, the Corporation voted the value of twenty fodder of lead—about twenty tons weight—for the other. In consideration of this bestowment, the

prebendary demised the property to the Corporation in two leases of seventy years each, to commence at the expiration of the lease already existing. By this means the City had the property for 215 years, and it was naturally esteemed by them very little inferior to freehold.

About a century later—namely, in 1650, when the heads of the Commonwealth submitted the lands of the Dean and Chapter for sale, the Corporation bought them, and thus made themselves, absolutely and unconditionally, lords of the manor ; and, holding the fee simple, they of course paid no rent. But this ownership only lasted for ten years, for the King came to his own again, and the old order of things was re-established. The Corporation books give proof of rent being charged and paid in 1664 ; but there is no evidence of the repayment of any purchase-money ; and it is well known that the City suffered the loss. The Corporation, having thus to pay rental, were ready to turn the property to some account ; and it was believed by Defoe that the Great Plague Pit was excavated near this spot, when men were dying at the rate of 8,000 to 12,000 a week, for the reception of bodies for whom no room could be found in the City churchyards. We are told that this ground,—

“ Part whereof at present denominated Tindal’s or the Dissenters’ Burial-ground, was by the Mayor and Corporation of London, in the year 1665, set apart and consecrated* as a common cemetery for the interment of such corpses as could not have room in the burial-ground in the dreadful year of the pestilence. However, it not being made use of on that occasion, the said Tindal took a lease thereof, and converted it into a burial-ground.”†

Thus the ground, for a time, took the name of the lessee ; and so it is marked in the maps, in place of the original name of the Bon-hill Fields.

Who could have imagined, when Defoe was laid in his quiet tomb, that this parcel of ground, then in a rural outskirt, and of little value, should now be accounted a precious inheritance to the people of England, not indeed because it is estimated by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners as worth, at the present moment, £100,000, but that it holds the dust of many generations, to the number of 120,000 dead, and these mainly of families firmly and faithfully attached to our dearly-bought and highly-valued civil and religious liberties.

Owing to the destruction by fire of the books connected with City properties, there is no

* There is no proof of this.

† Maitland’s Survey, 1789.

record of the proceedings of the Court of Common Council in reference to these burial grounds earlier than the year 1698; but the stones themselves bear evidence that Tindal, the new tenant, had no sooner taken possession of the land than he turned it to profitable account.

The earliest date found on any stone is on that of **DEBORA WARR**, Nov. 10, 1623; but this may have been the date of the decease of a person whose body was re-interred here. Probably that inscribed "Joannes Seaman, natus 6 Febr. 1665, ob. Julij. 23, 1665," was as early as any. Following these, it is known that many of the ministers ejected in 1662, who were refused burial in the City churches, were laid at rest here by their pious followers.

Bunhill Field, as represented on the old maps,* was of much larger extent than at present,† a considerable portion of one field being, by permission of the Corporation, built over in Tindal's time; but about the year 1700 a second ground was added to the original one, which was then found to be inconveniently full. About 1712, the lease being about to expire, the

* Ogilvie's, 1677. Roque's, 1746. Pine's, 1755. Horwood's, 1709.

† In the Friends' Burial Ground in Roscoe Street, also called Bunhill Fields, lies the body of George Fox.

Corporation had many offers for the ground, and eventually it was let to a new tenant, one James Browne, for twenty-one years, for 20s. a year. The fine paid appears to have been £900, Browne agreeing to continue the wall built in 1662 by the Corporation of London round the additional ground ; and further, he came under terms to allow the use of the place to "none other" purpose, and specially that it should not be used, as heretofore, as a "tenter field."

This tenant was succeeded by one Elizabeth Fetherstonhaugh, who held the ground for nearly eight years, and then surrendered her interest to the Corporation, who took possession, and managed the property ever after. This Fetherstonhaugh is believed to have laid out the street on the north side of the ground, and now called Featherstone Street, out of the profits derived from the burial ground. That these profits were considerable, is very evident. The fees at this date were over £700 per annum, and this large increase of the revenue, no doubt, was the chief inducement to the Corporation to take the management of the property into its own hands.

The Finsbury Estate, of which this was a part, was at this time in a neglected condition, a large portion being in so disgraceful

a state, that in 1766 notice was taken of it in Parliament, and countenance was given to a project for the laying out of lands, "now the resort of idle and disorderly persons." The City strenuously opposed this scheme, and gave a pledge of their intention to do whatever was required under a renewed lease which they were then in expectation of obtaining, and thus the demands of the aggrieved inhabitants were satisfied. The plans laid before Parliament were of a very comprehensive character ; but it should be observed, that in none of them was there any proposal to touch the "Great Dissenters' Burying Grounds," which in every plan is thus marked, and left as an open space, not even to be approached by any of the projected improvements. So jealously guarded was this spot, and so strong was the feeling subsequently in reference to the "Waterworks' Scheme," that it is manifest that the whole city would have been up in arms had the unhallowed hand of commercial enterprise been stretched forth to the committal of what the people would have deemed so great an act of sacrilege.

The Corporation, rich in funds, and profiting by the suggestion, soon produced a splendid scheme for covering the surrounding portion

of the Finsbury waste with merchants' houses and dwellings for professional men. They began at once to arrange terms for a lease with Dr. Wilson, the Prebendary, and in 1769 the Committee for letting the City Lands reported to the Common Council that they had

"agreed with the prebendary to join in an application to Parliament for an Act to enable the prebendary and his successors to grant a lease to the City of the Prebendal Estate, from Christmas last, for a term of ninety-nine years, renewable at the expiration of seventy-three years, by adding fourteen years, to make up a term of forty years, and *afterwards every fourteen years in like manner for ever.*"

The Corporation agreeing to these proposals, the Act was obtained. The side note, *Dr. Wilson empowered to grant a lease for ninety-nine years, renewable every fourteen years for ever,* remains, but the clause quoted above, though in the Bill, is not in the Act.

It yet remains to be discovered how and under what circumstances the omission of the clause, which clearly was intended to stand part of the arrangement, as it undoubtedly had formed part of the preliminary negotiation, was procured. However this may be, no renewal ever did take place, and ever since that time the representatives of the lapsed Prebendal Estate declined any

proposal for the renewal, and the consequence was, that the whole of this most valuable property, including the Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, Finsbury Square and Circus, the Tabernacle of Matthew Wilks, the Chapel of the Wesleys in the City Road, and the whole region round about, fell into the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for Church purposes at Christmas, 1867.

Nor do we hazard any comment upon the fact that the parties to this contract believed that the ground was virtually theirs for all time, and that the public had that impression is manifest. Nothing but this assurance could justify the conduct of the Corporation and the prebendary on the one hand, or of the public on the other ; and certainly nothing is more strongly corroborative of the fact that people were induced to believe, and did believe, that the most perfect security was given, that this burial ground should never, at any time, be disturbed. In proof of this assertion, the resolution of the Common Council in 1787 is conclusive,—

Resolved. “That it is the opinion of this Committee that it should be recommended to the Court of Common Council to resolve that no alteration *shall at any time hereafter be made*, by or under the authority of this Court, by building on the said

Burying Grounds, or either of them, or any part thereof; but that the same, and every part thereof, *shall at all times hereafter* remain, for the purpose of burials only, in such manner as hath been accustomed for many years past."

"That such resolution, when passed, should be printed in all the daily and evening newspapers."

The prebendary himself was a party to this public pledge.

The Corporation received and adopted those resolutions, and afterwards the Committee had a new list of fees printed on one side of a card and the above resolution on the other side; and this card was speedily distributed all over London, to undertakers and chapel-keepers, and posted freely by them in the vestries of the various places of worship of the metropolis, that all apprehension as to the perversion of the ground might be allayed.

We think it cannot be doubted what were the intentions and expectations of all parties at this date, and the result was that, public confidence being completely restored, Bunhill Fields became the recognised burial place for the Nonconformists of London.

As to the value of the grounds, it is believed that when, in 1842, the Corporation endeavoured to reinstate themselves by passing a Bill to

legalise the sale of the Finsbury Estate, upon terms agreed upon with the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, the Burial Grounds were taken in the valuation as of no worth, and were, in fact, excluded from the calculation. This measure was ultimately lost, and thus departed the last chance of rectifying a mysterious blunder. In 1852, an Order in Council prohibited further interments, and the keeper has ever since held a comfortless sinecure, having no duty to perform upon the ground, except that of giving admission to the public during certain hours of the day, subject only to their good behaviour.

Amidst all the wreck and confusion along the lines of these once ornamental and well-kept avenues, of broken slabs, defaced inscriptions, and ruined brickwork, it is a satisfaction to know that the registers of interments are still preserved, and, thanks to the Corporation of London, are unmutilated and complete. So important was it to the City to secure this consecutive registry, that when in 1787 the ground was taken out of private hands, a stipulation was made as to the records, and it appears that the terms for their surrender were not arrived at without a considerable exercise of diplomatic skill.

These books are now invested with all the

tokens of honour and authority among the Nonconformist registers in Somerset House. These well-attired volumes, twenty-seven in number, are marked "Bunhill Fields." It is said that they contain 124,000 entries—truly a noble roll of the mighty dead ; and, so far as can be ascertained, for accuracy and scope, a collection perfectly unique. The last entry is in 1852, when the ground was closed by an Order in Council.

But, after all, when you open the books, these are but the bare official entries, indicating the name of the deceased and the exact position of the resting place. How much more we want to know as we turn over page by page, and the eye rests ever and anon on the honoured names of the founders of some of our great City families ! How many, struggling out of obscurity, rose to distinction, and in some cases to worldly renown ; and amidst all temptation to the contrary, how faithful have they been, through many generations, to those noble principles of civil and religious liberty, for the maintenance of which, in days of intolerance and persecution, their fathers suffered loss and shame. What memories hang about some of these names ! how rich the materials for a history of worthies whose dust piles high the sacred enclosure of these fields !

how hard it seems that the record of their lives is not written, and that it can never be known !

While, however, it is to be lamented that the sources of information are slight, we must be thankful that with regard to the most noteworthy names we have in many cases the record of the tombs themselves ; and, fortunately, some inscriptions, now completely obliterated, have been in other ways preserved.

In an old diary in the possession of Sir Charles Reed, in which, at sunset of each day, a venerable lady was wont to record her " pious reflections," there are frequent references to Bunhill Fields. Living near the Artillery-ground, she "walked for the air" nowhere so much as in the "Dissenters' Burial Ground," and her meditations there seem to have been most " precious and profitable." Her frequent companions were her two children, and of them it is recorded that they were at great pains to plant flowers over some neglected graves, and to copy down " most of the singular lines inscribed on the tombs." These children were probably as ignorant as the rest of the world that there was an "Old Mortality" dwelling much among these tombs, and doing a work for which his memory ought to be kept for ever fresh and green.* The writer of the Diary gives the sketch of his laborious toil :—

*The Rev. John Rippon, D.D.

"We had this day at dinner with us our worthy minister, Mr. Winter, who was pleased to say he should wish to meet our good friend, Mat. Wilks, for conferring and prayer upon matters which greatly concern the peace of our church just at present. After they had talked the affairs over and over, and sought the best direction, we were asked to go over to the Tabernacle to tea, and our pastor, Mr. Winter, never having seen Dr. Owen's grave, we went into the ground by the Old Royal [now City] Road—not our usual way. There we found a worthy man known to Mr. Wilks, Mr. Rippon by name, who was laid down upon his side between two graves, and writing out the epitaphs word for word. He had an ink-horn in his button-hole, and a pen and book. He tells us that he has taken most of the old inscriptions, and that he will, if God be pleased to spare his days, do all, notwithstanding it is a grievous labour, and the writing is hard to make out by reason of the oldness of the cutting in some, and defacings of other stones. It is a labour of love to him, and when he is gathered to his fathers, I hope some one will go on with the work."

Rippon is not without his monument. It is to be found within the great courtyard of the College of Heralds, in Doctors' Commons.

There, right and left, are the apartments of Garter, Clarencieux, and Norroy, the Kings-at-Arms, and Rouge Croix, Portcullis, Bluemantle, and others of the fraternity of Heralds and pursuivants ; and there is the Court of Honour and the rare and ancient library gathered with the greatest pains, and kept with the utmost care. Here, fit place for such a treasure, and in the midst of all the genealogical trees of the great, the gallant, and the noble of the land, is preserved the treasured record of the names and pious worth of those whose pedigree is of the highest, and whose honour is of the brightest that earth can show. Good Dr. Rippon little thought of such a depository for his work, but so it is, and so it will remain, as long as books may last, safe guarded by all the gaunt lions and griffins, the grim supporters of Old England's historic heraldry.

Some of these memorials have found their way into print, but there are others only now to be traced in the valuable record prepared, by order of the Committee, by Mr. George Rogers, whose copy of every legible inscription existing in 1868 is lodged in the office of the Surveyor of the City of London.

BUNHILL FIELDS IN 1869.

Upon it becoming known that the Finsbury Estate would revert in 1868 to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, an application was made to them to give a pledge that the Burial Ground should be held sacred for ever.* The reply of the Commissioners was, that they were entitled to receive the ground free from encumbrance ; that it was worth £100,000, but that they were willing, under the circumstances, to receive £10,000 by way of compensation. This demand, together with a knowledge that offers were being made for a portion of the ground for building purposes, determined the parties personally interested in the ground to memorialise the Corporation of London to interpose their authority by seeking Parliamentary powers to prevent the perversion of the property to secular use. Upon this appeal, the Corporation unanimously adopted the following resolution :—

“ PHILLIPS, Mayor.—Court of Common Council, Thursday, November 16th, 1865, Eleven Aldermen and One Hundred and Fifty-three Members present. Upon the Motion of CHARLES REED, Esq., Deputy,

“ Resolved unanimously—That this Court learns with regret that in the communications with the

* By a Committee of which Mr. Turberville was the Secretary.

Ecclesiastical Commissioners, the Committee have not found any disposition to concur in an arrangement for the preservation of the Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, except upon terms of sale and purchase.

“ That having regard to the antiquity of this spot as a place of extra-mural sepulture, that it has been held by this Corporation for more than five hundred years, that it has been set apart and used for centuries as a place of interment ; that a public pledge has been given by the conjoint authorization of the Ecclesiastical authorities and the Corporation—‘That the ground should at all times hereafter remain for the purposes of burials only,’ and that up to the year 1832, upon these conditions and assurances, vaults have been sold : this Court protests against this ground or any part thereof being applied to secular uses. That, considering the high historic interest attaching to the Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, in consequence of the interment of so many distinguished and honoured men of all creeds and parties, this Court is willing to accept the care and preservation of the ground on behalf of the public, and to assist in promoting any well-advised scheme for securing against molestation and disturbance the final resting place of so many thousands of their fellow-citizens.

“ Ordered : That a copy of the foregoing Resolutions be transmitted to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.”

By the help of the Committee of Deputies of Protestant Dissenters, a Bill was prepared, which, by the favour of Parliament, promptly became an Act.

The enacting clause is as follows :—

“ The Burial Ground shall, from time to time, and at all times . . . be held, used, and enjoyed, as an open space, accessible to the public at such times and under such regulations as the Corporation shall from time to time think proper and expedient . . . and no house or other building, whether for the purposes of residence or trade, or for any other purpose, shall, from henceforth and for ever hereafter, be built or erected upon the Burial Ground or any part thereof.”

Upon the obtaining of this Act, the Corporation appointed a Committee, whose labours in restoring and preparing the ground have extended over two years; and at the conclusion of their work, the whole was thrown open for public use in October, 1869.

The inscriptions on the granite pillars record this fact, as also the names of some of the most distinguished persons whose vaults are known to have been in the grounds. Some will not be found by the visitor, because many of the oldest and most interesting are lying beneath the surface, and cannot be raised. The position of these may be judged by a visit to a tomb in the S.W. corner of the ground. The vaults of Lieutenant-General Charles Fleetwood and Henry Cromwell were discovered at a depth of seven feet, and raised to the surface.

The work of the Committee is thus reported to the Corporation in the final statement of their labours by the Chairman :—

“In the presence of representatives of families whose dead were buried here, and of the delegates of churches and societies whose pastors and founders rest in this ground, I desire to say that in all the reparations and alterations carried on within this enclosure, not a fragment of stone has been taken away, nor has any portion of the soil been removed. Tombs have been raised from beneath the ground, stones have been set straight, illegible inscriptions have been deciphered and re-cut, hundreds of decayed tombs have been restored, paths have been laid and avenues planted ; and in all the sacred rights of sepulture scrupulously respected. An accurate copy of all the principal inscriptions exists; a complete register of all interments is preserved ; an exact plan of the entire ground has been taken ; and it is now hoped that the Corporation of London, having voluntarily done so much, the families owning graves here may come forward to do the rest. Within a few weeks the Committee will have discharged a trust readily undertaken in the public interest. They have considered themselves as fulfilling a sacred duty while renewing to posterity the decaying emblems of the

zeal and the sufferings of their forefathers and thereby, in the language of one buried here, 'trimming, as it were, the beacon-light left to warn future generations to defend their religion, even unto their blood.' It only remains that I should ask your lordship* to declare this ground open, under the conditions of the Act of Parliament which gives to the people this their prized and rightful inheritance."

The foregoing pages, prepared under the direction of the late Sir Charles Reed, M.P., bring the history of the Burial Ground down to the end of the year 1869, when its care was transferred to the Committee for letting the City's Lands. In the succeeding year (1870) the ground was returfed, several trees and shrubs were planted, and a few seats supplied for the use of visitors.

During the same year, the Wesleyan body submitted a design for a monument to be placed over the grave of Mrs. Susannah Wesley, mother of the Revs. John and Charles Wesley, the well-known founders of the Wesleyan connection,

* The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Sir James Clarke Lawrence, Bart., M.P.

whose remains lie in Bunhill Fields. The design was approved by the City Lands Committee, but the monument was eventually placed and is now in the garden of the Wesleyan Chapel on the opposite side of the City Road, the subscribers preferring the monument to be near the Chapel in which John and Charles Wesley ministered so long.

In 1875 two monuments were placed over the graves of two eminent men, the Rev. Joseph Hughes, founder of the Bible Society, and the Rev. Joseph Hart, the hymn-writer.

In 1876 the Vestry of the Parish of St. Luke, Old Street, requested that the path from the City Road should be continued through to Bunhill Row in order to afford the public a readier means of access between these two thoroughfares, there being no communication of any kind from Chiswell Street to Featherstone Street. In considering the proposition of the Vestry, the then City Architect, Sir Horace Jones, suggested the possibility of forming a footway, to be dedicated to the public, along the South side of the Burial Ground next the Honourable Artillery Company's premises, the entrance to the Burial Ground being from the new path. By direction of the Committee he prepared a plan, with estimate of cost. A part of the scheme was to replace

the dead wall next Bunhill Row with an open railing ; the Committee having approved there submitted the plan to the Court of Common Council with a recommendation that it should be carried out ; but a doubt of the legal power of the Corporation to form a public path through the ground having been raised, the scheme was abandoned. The Committee then decided to pull down the wall next Bunhill Row and substitute iron railings on a dwarf wall, with a pair of gates, the centre path from the City Road being continued through, and light iron railings with gates being placed on each side of the path—this work was completed in 1879.

Notwithstanding all that had been done, the ground was not in a condition which could be considered altogether satisfactory ; the City Land Committee, therefore, in 1884, under the advice of their Chairman, Mr. Thomas Loveridge, took further steps to make the place more attractive. A better arrangement was made, a gardener was regularly employed, paths were repaired, trees lopped and trimmed, ivy and creepers trained over the boundary walls, several additional seats provided, the tombstones cleaned, and in some cases the inscriptions re-cut, and flower beds of flowers were formed.

On entering the Ground, the left-hand pillar of the Gateway bears the following inscription:—

BUNHILL FIELDS.

This burial ground of the Nonconformists, known anciently as Bunhill in the Fields, was enclosed with a brick wall, at the sole charge of the City of London, in the Mayoralty of Sir JOHN LAWRENCE, Knight, Anno Domini 1665 and afterwards, the gates hereof were built and finished in the Mayoralty of Sir THOMAS BLUDWORTH, Knight, Anno Domini 1666.

On the right-hand pillar there is the following inscription:—

BUNHILL FIELDS.

At the time of the closing of this Ground, in 1852, more than 120,000 bodies had been interred therein. In the year 1867 it was committed by Act of Parliament to the care of the Corporation of London, and having by them been planted and restored for public resort, it was opened by the Right Hon. JAMES CLARKE LAWRENCE, M.P., Lord Mayor, on the 14th of October, 1869.

CHARLES REED, Esq., M.P.,
Chairman of the Preservation Committee.

On the other pillars are cut the names of most distinguished persons who had vi this Ground:—

(On the left-hand pillar.)

IN THIS GROUND ARE THE VAULTS OF

LIBUT.-GEN. FLEETWOOD
*HENRY CROMWELL
*RICHARD CROMWELL
WILLIAM CROMWELL
DAME MARY HARTOPP
JOHN BUNYAN
VAVASOR POWELL
THOMAS GOODWIN, D.D.
JOHN OWEN, D.D.

HANSERD KNOLLYS
THEOPHILUS GALE
NATHANIEL MATHER
THOMAS ROSEWELL
ISAAC WATTS, D.D.
NATHL. LARDNER, D.I.
†SAMUEL WESLEY
DANIEL NEAL, M.A.

(On the centre left-hand pillar.)

IN THIS GROUND ARE THE VAULTS OF

THANKFUL OWEN
WILLIAM KIFFEN
THOMAS DOOLITTLE, M.A.
SAMUEL STENNELL, D.D.
JOHN EAMES, F.R.S.
THOMAS BRADBURY
JOHN CONDER, D.D.
THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON
ANDREW KIPPIS, D.D.

RICHARD WINTER, D.D.
HENRY HUNTER, D.D.
JOSEPH RITSON, F.S.A.
THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, M.
ALEXANDER WAUGH, D.
WILLIAM BLAKE
GEORGE BURDER
JOHN MORLEY

(On the right-hand pillar.)

IN THIS GROUND ARE THE VAULTS OF

DANIEL DEFOE
LADY ANN ERSKINE
WILLIAM JENKYN, M.A.
JOHN GILL, D.D.
DANIEL WILLIAMS, D.D.
ANDREW GIFFORD, D.D.
ABRAHAM REES, D.D.
MATTHEW WILKS

JOSEPH HUGHES
JOHN TOWNSEND
THOMAS HARDY
†JOHN HORNE TOOKE
THOMAS STOTHARD, R.A.
DAVID NASMITH
JOHN RIPPON, D.D.
JOSEPH HARDCastle

* See Note at foot of page 38.

† This is a mistake, it should be Susannah Wesley.

‡ See Note, page 66.

Inscriptions on Tombs.

It has been found impossible to give an idea of the names inscribed upon the six thousand tombs still to be found. All that is here attempted is to record the facts connected with the most distinguished, some of whose names are inscribed upon the granite columns. For the rest, the interested inquirer is directed to the Surveyor's Office, Guildhall, where is deposited a plan shewing every tomb now in the ground. If further reference is needed, copies of all the inscriptions, as found in the early part of this century, are to be seen (by order) in Dr. Rippon's collection of epitaphs in Heralds' College, Godliman Street, St. Paul's; and still further, the actual registers, kept by the Corporation with great care from 1662, may be seen at the office of the Registrar of Deaths, Somerset House, upon the payment of the usual fee.

WILLIAM BIGGS.

WILLIAM BIGGS, Citizen and Mason, erected this monument in memory of his daughter Elizabeth, who died 15th August, 1733, aged 12 years.

The remains of Mr. Biggs, who died on the 10th February, 1738, his wife, and other members of his family, are also interred here.

WILLIAM BLAKE.

WILLIAM BLAKE, a celebrated Engraver and Poet, was born in London in 1757. He was a person of eccentric character, and his etchings were remarkable for their peculiar and original manner. He died August 12, 1828. The exact place of his burial is not known.

THOMAS BRADBURY.

"In this vault is deposited the body of the Rev. Mr. THOMAS BRADBURY, a very eminent Dissenting Minister of this City. He was greatly distinguished for his zealous defence, both from the pulpit and the press, of the fundamental principles of Religion ; nor was he less remarkable for his hearty affection and firm attachment to the *Protestant* succession, in the illustrious House of Hanover ; particularly in the alarming and perilous crisis at the close of the reign of Queen Anne. Full of the joyful expectation of a better and eternal life, he departed from our world September 9th, 1759, in the 82nd year of his age, and the 64th of his ministry. Reader! go thy way and consider that if the vivacity of genius or the charms of eloquence could have

prevented the stroke of death, this monument had not been erected. Remember, also, that as surely as night succeeds the longest day, so surely will death conclude the longest life. Work, therefore, while it is day."

Early on Lord's day morning, August 1, 1714, Mr. Bradbury was walking along Smithfield in a pensive condition. Dr. Gilbert Burnet, Bishop of Salisbury, happened to pass through in his carriage, and observing Mr. Bradbury, called out to him by name and inquired the cause of his great thoughtfulness. "I am thinking," replied Bradbury, "whether I shall have the constancy and resolution of that noble *company of martyrs* who were burned to ashes in this place; for I most assuredly expect to see similar times of persecution, and that *I* shall be called to suffer in a like cause." The Bishop, a zealous Protestant, endeavoured to quiet his fears; told him the Queen was very ill, that she was given over by her Physicians, and that he was then going to Court to inform himself of the exact particulars. He assured Mr. Bradbury that he would despatch a messenger to him with the earliest intelligence of the Queen's death; and that if he should happen to be in the pulpit at the time of the messenger's arrival, he should be instructed to drop a handkerchief from the gallery as a token of the event. While Mr. Bradbury was preaching, the intelligence was communicated to him by the *signal* agreed upon. He suppressed his feelings during the sermon; but in his last prayer he returned

thanks to God for the deliverance of these kingdoms from the evil counsels and designs of their enemies, and implored the Divine blessing upon "His Majesty King George and the House of Hanover." Mr. Bradbury ever afterwards gloried in being the first man in the kingdom who *proclaimed King George the First.*

JOHN BUNYAN.

"JOHN BUNYAN, Author of 'Pilgrim's Progress,' Ob. 31st August, 1688, *Æt.* 60. Restored by public subscription under the presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, May, 1862."

The above is the inscription on the tomb.

Bunyan was a resident in Bedford, where he was born. He was incarcerated in Bedford Gaol for twelve years for preaching the Gospel. He lived sixty years, and wrote sixty separate works, the best known of which is the "Pilgrim's Progress."

In this tomb are buried, the Rev. Robert Bragge, Merchant's Lecturer at Pinner's Hall ; Mr. Strudwick (1697), in whose house, on Snow Hill, Bunyan breathed his last ; and several other persons.

GEORGE BURDER.

"THE Rev. GEORGE BURDER, died 29th May, 1832, aged 80."

Mr. Burder was born in London in 1752, and served his apprenticeship to Isaac Taylor, the

engraver. He was the author of the "Village Sermons."

THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON.

"THOMAS FOWELL BUXTON, oldest son of Isaac and Sarah Buxton, died December 3rd, 1795, aged 37 years."

In this tomb are buried several members of the family of the anti-slavery philanthropist, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart.

JOHN CONDER, D.D.

"IN memory of Rev. JOHN CONDER, D.D., Pastor of a Church at Cambridge 16 years, and afterwards at Moorfields, London, 21 years.

President of the Independent College, Hometon. Born in Cambridgeshire, 1714; died at Hackney, May 30, 1781, aged 67 years.

I have sinned, I have repented,
I have trusted, I have loved,
I rest, I shall arise,
And through the Grace of Christ, however
 unworthy, I shall reign."

Renewed with translation of the Latin
Inscription, 1867.

* HENRY CROMWELL.

DISCOVERED seven feet beneath the surface, and restored by the Corporation of London, 1869.

Major Henry, the son of the second son of Oliver Cromwell, erected this vault, and in it are buried :—

1. Hannah Hewlings,† his widow.
2. William Cromwell, their fourth son.
3. Anne Cromwell, their only daughter.

Thomas Cromwell, another son of Major Henry Cromwell, and born at Hackney, had a vault “on the north side of Bunhill Fields (not discovered), in which he and Henry, his brother, were buried.

* RICHARD CROMWELL.

“ THIS monument was erected by Mr. Richard Cromwell to the memory of Mrs. Eleanor Gatto.

* Many persons have left the ground with the erroneous idea that these persons were the sons of the Lord Protector Oliver Cromwell; the descriptions given above shew clearly that they were not. It may be mentioned that Henry Cromwell, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland under his great father, died in 1678, and was buried in Wicken Church, Cambridgeshire, and that Richard Cromwell, Lord Protector for a few months after his father's death, died in 1712, and was buried in Hursley Church, Hampshire.

† Hannah Hewlings was the daughter of William Kiff, buried in this ground. She befriended the persecuted members of her father's family with great bravery. She built and endowed “10 Almshouses upon Hoxton Causeway for 10 poor widows being Protestant Dissenters.”

widow, his mother-in-law, who died 27th day of September, 1727, in the 60th year of her age.

"Eleanor Cromwell, his third daughter, died 24 day February, 1727, aged two months.

"Miss Mary Cromwell, spinster, his sister, who died 9 day July, 1731, in the 41st year of her age.

"M** Hannah Cromwell, his mother, who died 27 day March, 1732, in the 79th year of her age.

"Henry Cromwell, Esq., his father, who was a Major in the Army, died at Lisbon 11th day of September, 1711, aged 53, and was buried there.

"Here rests the body of Mrs. Eleanor Gracedeu, spinster, daughter of Sir Bartholomew Gracedeu, Knt., who died 26th February, A.D., 1737, in the 53rd year of her age.

"Mrs. Mary Cromwell, the beloved wife of William Cromwell, Esq., and daughter of William Sherwill, late of London, Merchant, died 4th March, 1752, aged 62 years.

"William Cromwell, Esq. (husband of Mrs. Mary Cromwell), mentioned on the other side of this monument, died 9 July, 1772, aged 79 years.

"Mrs. Elizabeth Cromwell died Nov. 12, 17*2, in the 68th year of her age.

"Mi****Cromwell died March.*****"

In addition to the above, Oliver, Anne, and Eleanor Cromwell were buried in this ground.

DANIEL DEFOE.

“**DANIEL DEFOE** (author of ‘Robinson Crusoe’ who died April 24, 1731, in his 70th year.”

Defoe was born in London in the year 1661. He wrote many satirical works, for one of which he was placed in the pillory, and suffered fine and imprisonment. His most famous work, “Robinson Crusoe,” appeared in 1719.

THOMAS DOOLITTLE, M.A.

The precise place of interment not known.

MR. DOOLITTLE was born at Kidderminster 1630. He was sent by Mr. Richard Baxter to Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. He renounced living in St. Alphage, London Wall, in 1662 and was the last of the London clergy ejected by the Act of Uniformity.

JOHN EAMES, F.R.S.

“The learned John Eames, F.R.S.”

OF JOHN EAMES, it need only be said that he was the friend of Sir Isaac Newton and Dr. Watts, and the tutor of Archbishop Secker. He died June 29, 1744.

LADY ANN ERSKINE.

“BENEATH are deposited the mortal remains of the Right Hon. Lady Ann Agnes Erskine, eldest daughter of the late Earl of Buchan, who departed this transitory life October 5, 1804, aged 65.”

Lady Erskine was born in the year 1739, and was the sister of Lord Chancellor Erskine. She was one of the Countess of Huntingdon’s trustees, and spent forty years in befriending the poor.

**LIEUTENANT-GENERAL CHARLES
FLEETWOOD, 1692.**

DISCOVERED seven feet beneath the surface, and restored by the Corporation of London, 1869.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD married Bridget, the widow of Lord Deputy Ireton and eldest daughter of Oliver Cromwell. He was a Lieutenant-General at the battle of Worcester, and subsequently Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Ireland. In this grave is buried Dame Mary Hartopp.

THEOPHILUS GALE, M.A.

UPON the tomb of John, Thomas, and Benoni Rowe is this inscription:—

“Next to this tomb lies interred the body of the late learned and pious Mr. Theophilus Gale.”

Mr. Gale was born in 1628. He was Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, and preached at the Cathedral of Winchester until he was ejected in 1662. He became minister of the congregation of Presbyterians in Haberdashers' Hall, and wrote, among other works, "The Court of the Gentiles." He died in 1678, aged 49, and left all his real and personal estate, in trust, for the education and benefit of poor young scholars.

ANDREW GIFFORD, D.D.

"H. S. E. A. GIFFORD, D.D., P.F., vix. An LXXXIII. MDCCLXXXIII."

Dr. Gifford was for fifty years the minister of Eagle Street Chapel, Holborn, and for twenty-seven years sub-librarian of the British Museum. He was buried in Bunhill Fields at six o'clock in the morning of July 2nd, 1784, when Rev. John Ryland delivered an oration in presence of upwards of 200 ministers, and a concourse of persons there assembled.

JOHN GILL, D.D.

THIS tomb bears a Latin inscription, of the following is a translation:—

"In this Sepulchre are deposited the remains of John Gill, Professor of Sacred Theology, a man of unblemished reputation, a sincere Christian, an excellent preacher of the Gospel."

courageous defender of the Christian faith ; who, adorned with piety, learning, and skill, was unwearied in works of prodigious labour for more than fifty years. To obey the commands of his Great Master, to advance the best interest of the Church, to promote the salvation of men, impelled with unabated ardour, he put forth all his strength. He placidly fell asleep in Christ the 14th day of October, in the year of our Lord, 1771, in the 74th year of his age."

This inscription was composed by Dr. Samuel Stennett.

Dr. Gill was born at Kettering in 1697. He was the author of the "Exposition of the Bible," and the "Body of Divinity."

— — —

THOMAS GOODWIN, D.D.

"Argro Norfolciensi oriundus
Re antiquaria, præsertim Ecclesiasticæ
Nec angustæ Lectionis neque inexpeditæ
Sacris, si quis alias, scripturis præpotens
Inventione admodum feraci,
Nec solido minus subactoq ; judicio,
Variis inter se locis accurate collatis
Reconditos Spiritus sancti sensus
Mira cum fælicitate elicuit
Mysteria Evangelii nemo mortalium
Aut peritus illo introspectis,
Aut aliis clarius exposuit
[Materiam, formam, Regimen, Omnia,
Ecclesiarum à Christo institutarum,

Solertia parum vulgari indagavit ;
 Si non & invenit.]
 Theologia, quam vocant, Casuum versatissimus,
 [Conscientiis turbatis pacem conciliavit,
 Errorum tenebris involutas
 Veritatis luce, irradiavit,
 Impeditisque scrupulos exemit.]
 Cognitione, Prudentia, dicendi facultate,
 Ecclesiae Pastor omnimode Evangelicus
 Multos tam privato quan ublico Ministerio
 Christo lucrifactos porro edificavit,
 Donec qua agendo quo patiendo
 Omnibus exantlati pro Christo laboribus,
 Placidam affequutus est in Christo quietem
 Ab Editis, Edendisque Operibus ;
 (Viri maximi optimo Monumento)
 Nomen reportaturus, unguento pretiosius,
 Ipsoq ; cui inscribitur, marmore perennius.
 ANNO AEræ Chr^{næ} MDCLXXIX.
 AEtat LXXX. Die Febr. xxiiii."

The whole of this inscription is now obliterated, and the black marble slab, having been struck with lightning, is split in two.

JOSEPH HARDCastle.

"SACRED to the memory of Joseph Hardcastle,
 Esq., one of the founders and first Treasurer of
 London Missionary Society ; born at Leeds the
 7th December, 1752, died at Hatcham House,
 Surrey, 3rd of March, 1819."

Mr. Hardcastle descended from a family living

at Hardcastle, near Masham, in Yorkshire. He settled in London, and was one of the Founders of the London Missionary Society and the Religious Tract Society.

THOMAS HARDY.

THIS monument bears upon the side fronting the City Road the following inscription:—

“ Public Duty and Private Worth.

“ To the Memory of Thomas Hardy, born March 3rd, 1751, and died October 11th, 1832, in the 82nd year of his age. He was a plain and upright man, a steady and inflexible patriot—one of the three who, in 1792, commenced the formation of the celebrated *London Corresponding Society*, for the promotion of a radical reform in the Commons House of Parliament; he was appointed Secretary to that Society in the same year, and filled the office with diligence and ability till his arrest in May, 1794, on a charge of High Treason, when he was committed to the Tower, separated from his wife and family for six months, subjected to a nine days' trial at the Old Bailey, and triumphantly acquitted by an honest and independent jury on the 5th of November, 1794, by which event the corrupt and sanguinary ministry of Mr. Pitt was defeated, and a brighter era commenced in the political condition of this country.

1836.”

The opposite side bears the following inscription :—

“ Thomas Hardy, born 3rd of March, 1751, died 11th October, 1832, in the 82nd year of his age.

“ Public Duty and Private Worth.

“ THOMAS HARDY lived to see a great part of his laudable and enlightened objects fulfilled by the passing of *The Reform Bill*, which will ultimately lead to good and happy government. His memory will be cherished by every friend of freedom, piety, and moral rectitude. It will be recorded in the history of this great country, that by his excellent conduct through a long life, he demonstrated that the most humble in society, when guided by *integrity*, and aided by *perseverance* and *judgment*, are sure to add to the happiness, and advance the liberties, of mankind.

“ Placed 5th November, 1836, by A. G., J. B., and R. T. Repaired 1853.”

JOSEPH HART.

“ Minister of the gospel, author of many hymns published in 1759, and still highly prized by the Church of God. Died 24th May, 1768, aged 50 years. The monument was erected in 1875.”

JAMES HUGHES.

“ Born at Newadd, Dder Cilian Mar, Trichrug Aeron, Cardiganshire. Minister of the Welsh Church, Jewin Crescent, Cripplegate. Died 2nd November, 1844, in the 66th year of his age.”

JOSEPH HUGHES, M.A.

v. JOSEPH HUGHES, M.A., Secretary to the
sh and Foreign Bible Society, died October
1833, aged 64 years."

∴ Hughes was also the Founder of the
sh and Foreign Bible Society.

HENRY HUNTER, D.D.

neath this pillar, raised by the hands of
dship, sleep the mortal remains of the Rev.
Henry Hunter, D.D., who through a long life,
ned of those who knew him, alas ! too short,
ed with unwearied assiduity the cause of
ion, literature, and the poor. In him, to
nguished talents and a capacious mind, were
ed energy of disposition, affability of manners,
volence of heart, and warmth of affection ;
the hearts of those who were blessed with his
dship is preserved the most sacred and
able attachment ; but his best eulogium,
his most durable memorial will be found in
ritings. There he has an inscription which
evolutions of years cannot efface ; and when
ettle shall skirt the base of this monument,
the moss obliterate this feeble testimonial
ffection—when finally sinking under the
ure of years, THIS PILLAR shall tremble
fall over the dust it covers, his name shall
perpetuated to generations yet unborn !
ler, thus far suffer the effusions of affectionate

remembrance, when no adequate eulogium can be pronounced ; and when no other inscription was necessary to perpetuate the memory than HENRY HUNTER, thirty-one years pastor of the Scots' Church, London Wall ; and on Wednesday, the 27th of October, 1802, left his family and his church to deplore, but never to retrieve his loss ; and silently took his flight to Heaven, in the sixty-second year of his age."

This inscription was written by Dr. William Bengo Collyer.

WILLIAM JENKYN, M.A.

THE original inscription on Mr. Jenkyn's tomb was—

“SACRED to the Remains of William Jenkyn, Minister of the Gospel, who, during the heavy storms of the Church, was imprisoned in Newgate. Died a martyr in the 72nd year of his age, and 52nd of his ministry, in 1684.”

Mr. Jenkyn was born at Sudbury, Suffolk, in 1612, and was educated at Cambridge. He was preacher at Christ Church, Newgate Street, and St. Ann's, Blackfriars. In 1662 he was ejected from his living. He was condemned, for preaching, to Newgate, where he died, Jan. 19, 1684, aged 72 years. He was buried with great honour in Bunhill Fields.

WILLIAM KIFFIN.

THE precise spot of Mr. Kiffin's interment is not known ; but upon the authority of Strype, in Stowe's "Survey of London," the following inscription was on his tomb :—

"William Kiffin, the elder, of London, merchant, died December 29th, 1701, in the 86th year of his age."

Mr. Kiffin was born in 1616. He was made Alderman of Chepe by James 2nd ; and besides being a minister of religion, was Lieut.-Colonel under Cromwell. He suffered great persecution, and died in his 86th year. His daughter married Major Henry, the son of the second son of the Protector Cromwell.

ANDREW KIPPIS, D.D.

"IN Memory of Andrew Kippis, D.D., F.R.S., and S.A., who was born March 28, 1725, and died October 8, 1795."

Dr. Kippis was born in Nottingham, and was a favourite pupil of Dr. Doddridge. He was a distinguished writer on scientific and antiquarian subjects.

HANSERD KNOLLYS.

THE precise spot of ground where this grave was cannot now be pointed out, but the tomb bore the following inscription:—

“Here lyeth the body of Mrs. ANNE KNOLLYS, Daughter of John **ney, Esq., and wife of Hanserd Knollys (minister of the Gospel), by whom he had issue 7 sons and 3 daughters; who dyed April 30th, 1671, in the 63rd year of her age.

“My only wife, that in her life,
Lived Forty years with me,
Lyes now at Rest, for ever blest,
With Immortality.

“My Dear is gone, left me alone,
For Christ to do and dye;
Who dyed for me, and dy’d to be
My Saviour God most High.”

HANSERD KNOLLYS, died September 19th, 1691, in the 93rd year of his age. He endured many and severe trials on account of his religious convictions, which he bore with great constancy.

NATHANIEL LARDNER, D.D.

“THE REV. NATHANIEL LARDNER, D.D., author of the ‘Credibility of the Gospel History,’ ‘Ancient Jewish and Heathen Testimonies to the Truth of the Christian Religion,’ and several other smaller pieces, monuments of his learning, judgment, candour, impartiality, beneficence, and true piety. He was born at Hawkhurst, in the County of Kent, June 6th, 1684, and died on a visit there, July 24th, 1768, in the 85th year of his age. ‘An Israelite, indeed, in whom is no guile!’”

By Dr. Lardner's own directions, his remains were buried in the vault belonging to the Neals in Bunhill Fields. He was a popular and learned divine.

See "Daniel Neal, M.A.," page 53.

THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, M.A.

"IN this vault reposes the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey, M.A., late of St. John's College, in the University of Cambridge, and sometime vicar of Catterick, in Yorkshire. Having resigned his preferment in the Church for the sake of truth and a good conscience, he became founder of the Chapel in Essex Street. This venerable confessor ended his blameless and exemplary life, November 3rd, 1808, aged 86 years."

Mr. Lindsey was the *protégé* of the Ladies Hastings, who sent him to St. John's College, Cambridge, of which College he was a Fellow. He afterwards became Chaplain to the Duke of Somerset.

Mr. Belsham, his successor at Essex Street Chapel, lies buried in this tomb.

NATHANIEL MATHER.

THE tomb of this good man cannot now be pointed out, but it bore the following inscription:—

"Under this tomb is laid the Rev. Mr.

Nathaniel Mather, the honour of both Englands. The county of Lancaster, in our England, gave him birth ; and the American England trained him up in literature, and honoured him with the degree of Master of Arts, to which country, when he was very young, through the severity of the times, he fled with his father. Returning thence, he was unanimously chosen pastor of a church at Dublin, in Ireland, whence, being called by a Christian Society to this City, he here closed his life and pastorship. If you inquire his merits, take his character in a few words ; he had rich endowments of mind, was profcundly learned, had an exact judgment, and a most piercing understanding ; in a word, nature and science enriched him with all her stores, and all were consecrated to the service of his God. He was well qualified for all the branches of his work. He faithfully preached the Gospel of his blessed Redeemer, and adorned it with a most exemplary life. In him benevolence, modesty, and patience mingled their glories, and he was a most illustrious pattern of holiness. He was always equal and constant to himself ; a most pious Christian, a most tender husband, an able and laborious minister, and a faithful and vigilant pastor. In the exercise of his sacred office, he, with an holy art, concealed the man, that the Lord alone might be exalted ; in fine, he was ennobled with every virtue, and was meritorious of the highest praise. But, alas, how severe the affliction ! 'He is gone.' But with a ful sail of faith he entered his port

of glory, and began his everlasting triumph. He died July 26th, 1697, aged 67."

Mr. Nathaniel Mather was the second son of Richard Mather, the founder of the family from which Increase Mather, of Boston (U.S.), sprung. He was presented by Cromwell with the living of Barnstaple, but was ejected at the Restoration.

JOHN MORLEY.

"JOHN MORLEY, died 10th May, 1848, in the 80th year of his age."

A merchant citizen of high honour and inflexible integrity. He was father of Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P. for Bristol, who died on the 4th September, 1886, aged 77 years, and was buried in Abney Park Cemetery.

DAVID NASMITH.

"SACRED to the memory of David Nasmith, founder of City Missions. Born at Glasgow; died at Guildford, November 17th, 1839, in his 41st year."

DANIEL NEAL, M.A.

DANIEL NEAL was born in London in 1678, and died in 1743. He was an eminent Divine, and author of many learned works, of which "The History of the Puritans" is the best known.

Dr. Nathaniel Lardner was buried in the same grave, see page 50.

JOHN OWEN, D.D.

THE following is a translation of the Latin inscription :—

“ JOHN OWEN, D.D., born in the county of Oxford, the son of an eminent minister, himself more eminent and worthy to be enrolled among the first divines of the age. Furnished with human literature in all its kinds and in all its degrees, he called forth all his knowledge, in an orderly train, to serve the interests of religion, and minister in the sanctuary of his God. In divinity, practical, polemic, and casuistical, he excelled others, and was in all equal to himself. The Arminian, Socinian, and Popish errors, those hydras whose contaminated breath and deadly poison infested the Church, he, with more than Herculean labour, repulsed, vanquished, and destroyed. The whole economy of redeeming grace, revealed and applied by the Holy Spirit, he deeply investigated and communicated to others, having first felt its Divine energy, according to its draught in the Holy Scriptures, transfused into his own bosom. Superior to all terrene pursuits, he constantly cherished, and largely experienced, that blissful communion with Deity he so admirably describes in his writings. While on the road to heaven, his elevated mind almost comprehended its full glories and joys. When he was consulted on cases of conscience, his resolutions contained the wisdom of an oracle. He was a scribe every way instructed in the mysteries of the kingdom of

God. In his conversation he held up to *many*, in his public discourses to *more*, and in his publications from the press to *all*, who were set out for the celestial Zion, the effulgent lamp of evangelical truth, to guide their steps to immortal glory. While he was thus diffusing his Divine light, with his own inward sensations, and the observations of his afflicted friends, his earthly tabernacle gradually decayed, till at length his deeply-sanctified *soul*, longing for the fruition of its God, quitted the *body*; in younger age, a most comely and majestic form, but, in the latter stages of life, depressed by constant infirmities, emaciated by frequent diseases, and (above all) crushed under the weight of intense and unremitting studies, it became an incommodious mansion for the vigorous exertion of the spirit in the service of its God. He left the world on *a day dreadful to the Church by the cruelties of men*, but blissful to *himself* by the plaudits of his God, August 24th, 1683, aged 67."

THANKFUL OWEN.

THIS tomb bore a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:—

“ Thankful Owen, S.T.B. Here mingleth his sacred dust with that of GOODWIN, to whom in life he was most dear. He scarce survived an hour the finishing of a Preface which he had been writing to that great work of Goodwin on the ‘ Epistle to the Ephesians, the publication of

which had fallen to his care. Dying with the same calmness with which he had lived, without a groan, save of the heart to Christ, on the 1st of April, 1681, in the 63rd year of his age."

LADY PAGE.

ON the south side of Monument is this inscription.

"Here lyes Dame Mary Page,
"Relict of Sir Gregory Page, Bart.,
"She departed this life March 11, 1728,
"In the 56 year of her age."

On the north side is the following :—

"In 67 months she was tap'd 66 times,
"Had taken away 240 gallons of water,
"Without ever repining at her case,
"Or ever fearing the operation."

VAVASOR POWELL.

ON the Plank of an Altar-Monument of Free-stone, at the West, was the following inscription engraven :—

"VAVASOR POWELL, a successful Teacher of the past

A sincere Witness of the present, and an useful

Example to the future Age, lies here interr'd, who in the Defection of so many, obtained Mercy to be found Faithful ; for which being called to several Prisons, he was there tried,

and would not accept Deliverance, expecting a better Resurrection. In hope of which, he finished this Life, & Testimony together, in the 11th Year of his Imprisonment, and in the 53rd Year of his Age, *Octob. 27, An. 1671.*" "In vain Oppressors do themselves perplex To find out Arts how they the Saints may vex: Death spoils their Plots and sets the Oppressed free ; Thus VAVASOR obtained true Liberty. Christ him released, and now he's joyned among The martyred Souls, with whom he cries, '*How long?*'" *Rev. 6. 10.*

Vavasor Powell was born in Wales in 1617, and was educated at Jesus College, Oxford. For preaching the Gospel, he suffered imprisonment five years in Southsea Castle, five years in Cardiff Castle, and, in 1669, in the Fleet Prison, London, where he died, in the 53rd year of his age. He was a man of great intrepidity, and has been called the "Whitfield of Wales."

HUGH PUGH.

HUGH PUGH, the celebrated Welsh harper, younger son of Richard Pugh, Guide General to the summit of Cader Iris, Merionethshire.

He died on the 9th February, 1840, aged 28 years.

ABRAHAM REES, D.D.

“REV. ABRAHAM REES, D.D., F.R.S., F.L. etc., etc., died 9th June, 1825, aged 81 years. A learned man and author of the well-known “Encyclopædia.”

JOHN RIPPON, D.D.

“THE REV. JOHN RIPPON, D.D., for 63 years pastor of a Baptist Church in Carter Lane, Southwark; as a man and as a minister, he endeared to all who intimately knew him. His talents pre-eminently qualified him for useful and acceptable discharge of his Pulpit Duties. Affable in manner, affectionate in position, animated in the pulpit, in doctrine incorrupt, unwavering in principle; his preaching was attractive, and his labours were abundant and successful. Among his varied services to the cause of religion, by none was he better known, or will be longer remembered in the Churches at home and abroad, than by the judicious and comprehensive Selection of Hymns bearing his name, which has aided the devout and inspired the praises of myriads of his fellow Christians.

“Dr. Rippon, pastor of the Baptist Church in Carter Lane, Tooley Street, Southwark, six years, died 17th December, 1836, in his 86th year of his age.”

Dr. Rippon was born at Tiverton in the year

1751, and succeeded the learned Dr. Gill at Carter Lane Chapel. He has left six volumes of Bunhill Fields inscriptions, copied in his own handwriting ; these are now in the Heralds' College Library.

JOSEPH RITSON, F.S.A.

AN antiquarian of great repute, and the author of several learned works. The precise spot of his grave is unknown.

THOMAS ROSEWELL, M.A.

THIS stone originally bore a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation :—

“Here lieth the body of that celebrated Divine, *Thomas Rosewell, M.A.* A man not more eminent for his learning than for his piety and modesty; a preacher distinguished for judgment, eloquence, and study ; a most diligent and skilful interpreter of the sacred volume, who, after many labours, and through the iniquities of the times, and many bitter sufferings, which, for the sake of Christ, he bore with the greatest fortitude, calmly departed this life at Rotherhithe, Feb. 15th, in the 62nd year of his age, and of Christ 1692.”

Mr. Rosewell was born at Dunkerton, Somersetshire, on May 3rd, 1630. He was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford, and ejected from the living of Sutton Mandeville, in Wilts, in 1662.

He was condemned to death by Judge Jefferies for preaching against the King, but received the Royal pardon ; and having lived in London seven years, died February 14th, 1692, aged 62.

His son Samuel, the friend of Dr. Watts, lies buried near this spot.

JOHN, THOMAS, AND BENONI ROWE.

“ HERE lyeth the Body of JOHN ROWE, sometimes Preacher in the Abby at Westminster, who died October xii., in the 52nd Year of his Age. Anno 1677.

“ Under this stone is also buried the Body of Mr. THOMAS ROWE, the Eldest son of Mr. JOHN ROWE, and late Minister of the Gospel in *London*, who departed this Life the 18th Day of *August*, in the year of our Lord 1705, and in the 48th Year of his Age.”

“ Here also lies the Body of Mr. BENONI ROWE, Minister of the Gospel in *London*, who departed this Life the 30th of *March*, in the Year of our Lord 1706, and in the 48th Year of his Age.”

The Rev. John Rowe, who here lies buried with two of his sons, was Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford. He was ejected from the Abbey Church, Westminster, in 1662. His qualifications as a scholar were very eminent.

Rev. Thomas Rowe had the honour of educating Dr. Isaac Watts, Daniel Neal, and other eminent Divines.

SAMUEL STENNETT, D.D.

DR. STENNETT was well known as a Hymn writer. He died Aug. 24, 1795, aged 67.

THOMAS STOTHARD, R.A.

“THOMAS STOTHARD, Esq., R.A., who died 27th April, 1834, aged 79 years. Whose works as an Artist were justly esteemed of the highest order, and will be closely studied by those who aim at excellence in the *Historic Art*, in which he stood pre-eminent.”

JOHN TOWNSEND.

“REV. JOHN TOWNSEND (Founder of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum), died 7th February, 1826, aged 69.”

Mr. Townsend was educated at Christ's Hospital. He afterwards became minister of Orange Street Chapel, and was Founder of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

ISAAC WATTS, D.D.

“ISAAC WATTS, D.D., Pastor of a Church of Christ in London; successor of the Rev. Mr. Joseph Caryl, Dr. John Owen, Mr. David Clarkson and Dr. Isaac Chauncey; after fifty

years of feeble labours in the Gospel, interrupted by four years of tiresome sickness, was at last dismissed to rest, Nov. xxv., A.D. 1748. *Æt.* 75. ii. Cor. 5. 8. ‘Absent from the body, present with the Lord.’ Col. 3. 4. ‘When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, I shall also appear with him in glory.’ ‘In uno Jesu omnia.’

“This monument, on which the above modest inscription is placed by order of the deceased, was erected as a small testimony of regard to his memory, by Sir John Hartopp, Bart., and Dame Mary Abney, and replaced by a few of the persons who met for worship where he so long laboured, and who still venerate his character, 1808.”

The name has been cut in the side panels by the Corporation of London. Dr. Watts resided for thirty-six years at Abney Park as the guest of Sir Thomas Abney, an alderman of London, and there he wrote most of his well-known Works, also his “Psalms and Hymns.”

At the foot of this vault a Memorial Tree was planted by the Chairman, Sir C. Reed, in the presence of the Committee.

ALEXANDER WAUGH, D.D.

“In this grave are deposited the mortal remains of the REV. ALEXANDER WAUGH, D.D., Pastor of the Scots’ Secession Church in Wells Street, Oxford Street, where for nearly forty-six years he laboured as the Peacemaker, the Friend, and the Father of his people. He was one of the

earliest promoters of the London Missionary Society in 1795, on behalf of which, and of the numerous charities in this City, he was enabled by his God to exhibit, in no common measure, the varied gifts of a powerful and eloquent advocate. This plain stone is raised not to eulogise his name or to delineate his character, but to record the solemn and grateful testimony of his widow and children to the many Christian graces which adorned her husband and their father. He was born at East Gordon, Berwickshire, August 16th, 1754; educated at the Universities of Edinburgh and Aberdeen; ordained at New Town, in the parish of Melrose, N.B., August 30th, 1780; translated to the pastoral charge of Wells Street Chapel, London, May 9th, 1782; died December 14th, 1827, in the 74th year of his age.

“Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season. Job 5. 26.”

Dr. Waugh was for forty-five years minister to the Church in Wells Street Chapel, London, “a man of pure philanthropy and disinterested benevolence.”

SUSANNAH WESLEY.

“HERE lies the Body of Mrs. SUSANNAH WESLEY, (widow of the Rev. Samuel Wesley, M.A., late Rector of Epworth, in Lincolnshire), who died July 23rd, 1742, aged 73 years. She was the youngest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Annesley, D.D., ejected, by the Act of Uniformity, from

the Rectory of St. Giles's, Cripplegate, August 24th, 1662."

The stone was placed over the grave by her son, the Rev. John Wesley.

"She was the mother of nineteen children, of whom the most eminent were the Revs. John and Charles Wesley, the former of whom was, under God, the Founder of the Societies of the people called Methodists.

"In sure and steadfast hope to rise,
And claim her mansion in the skies ;
A Christian here her flesh laid down,
The Cross exchanging for a Crown."

A Monument to her memory has been placed in the Gardens of the Wesleyan Chapel, City Road.

MATTHEW WILKS.

"REV. MATTHEW WILKS, died January 29th, 1829, aged 82 y. 4 m."

Mr. Wilks was one of the earliest promoters of Missions to the heathen, and a Founder of the London Missionary Society. He was for 53 years the popular Minister of Whitfield's Tabernacle, and Tottenham Court Chapel.

DANIEL WILLIAMS, D.D.

"SACRED to the memory of the Rev. DANIEL WILLIAMS, D.D., who was born at Wrexham, in the County of Denbigh, in Wales. Having been from his childhood deeply tinctured with piety, and trained up in learning at a very early

period, he became a minister of the Gospel, and preached with good acceptance in many parts of England, and afterwards in Ireland, particularly in Dublin ; where, having spent the meridian of his age, he left behind him, among all true Protestants, a most honourable remembrance. Being driven thence by Popish tyranny, he removed to London, where he flourished for many years, and to the very end of his days in the highest reputation. He was a man of the most amazing abilities, for in him were united (how rare the union !) the most vivid rays of genius and the most profound sagacity. He was well versed in all the parts of Divinity ; he was a lively, pungent, grave, copious, and indefatigable preacher. He was so well qualified for his work, that with equal success, as his subjects required, he convinced the judgment and raised the affections. It is hard to say whether he was the more skilful or vigilant pastor. He was ever ready to promote the Gospel, not only in his own, but other countries, by his labours, his substance, and his influence. He was wonderfully adapted for forming and executing great designs ; and was not less conspicuous for his wisdom than his integrity in conducting the most arduous and difficult affairs, both of a public and private nature. He was eminent for his charity, and tender to all ; and in the midst of an ample fortune, he was sparing to himself, but most munificent to the poor, and especially the public, as after a long series of striking proofs in his life,

his last Will abundantly testified. He spent his days in constant cultivation of every virtue within the sphere of mortality, till full of years and honour, he, at length, was made a partaker, with the society of the blest above, of that consummate holiness which is only to be enjoyed in Heaven, January 26th, 1716, aged 72."

The foregoing is a translation of a Latin inscription on the tomb.

Dr. Williams was chosen successor to Richard Baxter, a lecturer in Pinner's Hall, in 1691.

He was the founder of the Library known as the Red Cross Street Library, now removed to Grafton Street, Gower Street.

RICHARD WINTER, D.D.

"IN memory of the Rev. RICHARD WINTER, D.D., for near forty years the able and faithful Pastor of the Church of Protestant Dissenters, in New Court, Carey Street; the Co-pastor and successor of the Rev. Thomas Bradbury. He was a considerable Biblical scholar, an able supporter of the doctrines of Grace, a judicious instructor and practical preacher; and in the whole of his deportment, a consistent and exemplary character. He died in cheerful hope March 29th, 1799, in the 79th year of his age."

NOTES.—In the edition of 1870, it is stated that John Horne Tooke was buried in Bunhill Fields, and his name is inscribed on one of the pillars, but this is a mistake, as his remains were interred in Ealing Churchyard.

It will settle a point in dispute to mention that Henry Fauntleroy, who was executed at Newgate Gaol on the 30th November, 1824, for forgery, was buried in Bunhill Fields.

For further information upon any matter connected with this Ground, visitors are referred to the City Surveyor's Office, Guildhall.

The following Books and Documents are deposited in, and may be consulted at, the Guildhall Library. (Admission free.)

BUNHILL FIELDS BURIAL GROUND:—

Order Book furnishing details of the Interments, 1789-1854. 18 vol., fo.

Alphabetical list of persons buried in Bunhill Fields, 1st January, 1827, to 5th January, 1854, 2 vol., fo.

A copy of the Register Book of Burials, 26th December, 1839, to 5th January, 1854. 2 vol., fo.

Receipt Book for Interments, Christmas, 1839, to Michaelmas, 1851. fo.

Plan of Bunhill Fields Burial Ground. 37" x 52".

Record of Inscriptions on grave-stones, etc., compiled in 1869, with index to accompany the above plan. 8 vol., 4^v.





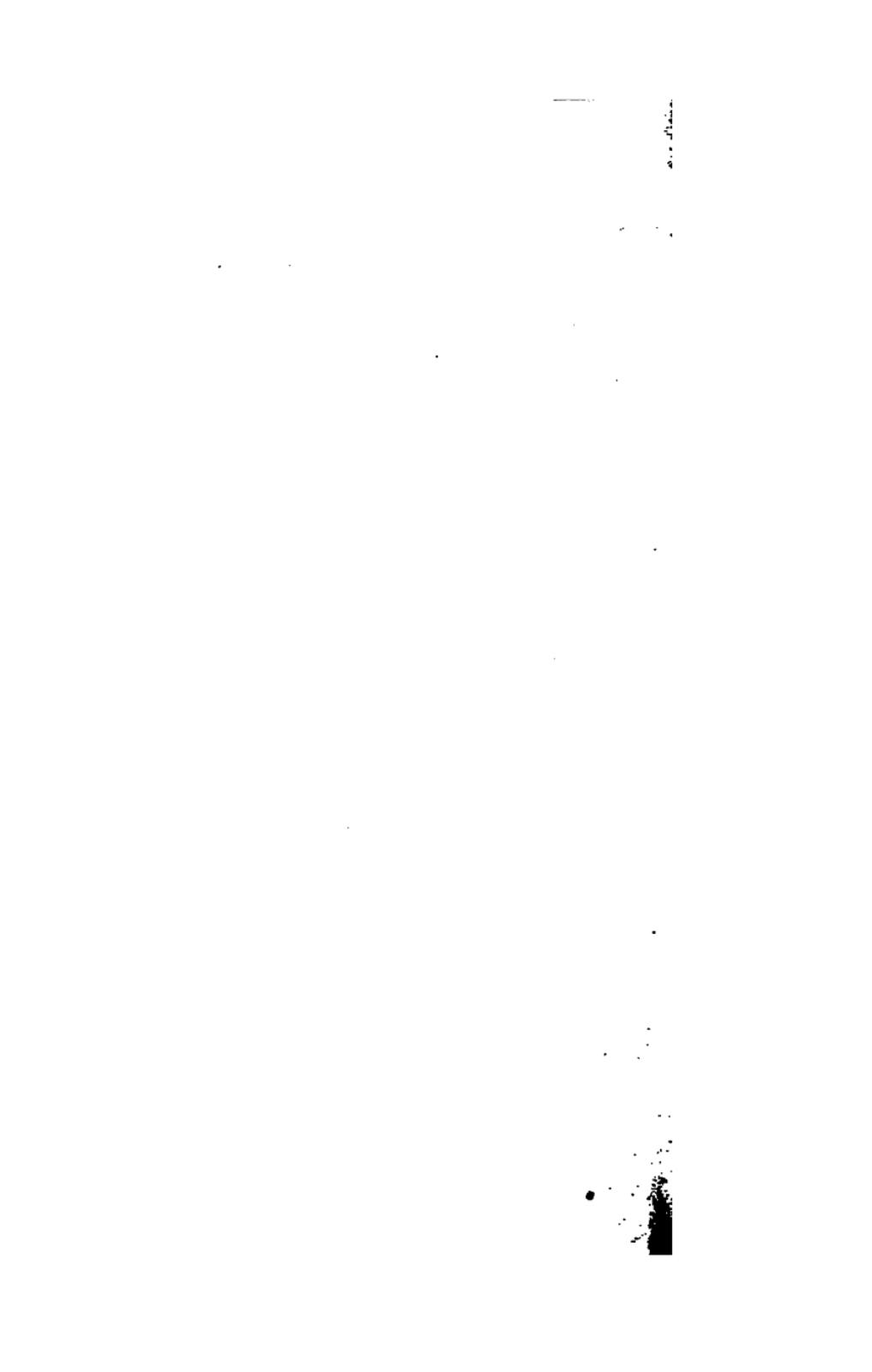
Vasim

Rev'd Matthew Wilks,
1829.

34.

Lardner DD. 1768.

s. 49. G^t Tower St. London. E.C.













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